Mtt.13:45-46. THE SEARCH FOR LIFE'S BEST.

INTRO.

The parable teaches a single lesson.
The point to the parable of the found treasure and that of the pearl of great price is the same- the supreme value of of the K.G. The diff. between them.
Read Pearl parable. Mtt.13:45-46.

8. Seeking the K.G. is a search for life's supreme good.
1. A search.~~f~~/~~t~~/~~b~~/~~s~~/~~t~~.
~~V~~/~~l~~/~~u~~/~~f~~/~~t~~/~~p~~/~~r~~/~~2~~/~~y~~/~~g~~/
Not a mere dream or idle fancy or vain wish-
The K.G. demands the seeker; set of purpose, sireless of energy, expert of value.

2.It is a search for the best.
Value of pearl 2000 yrs ago.
Life largely a quest for the best.
Some seek it in nobility of chaacter
Some in culture
Some in philanthropy, seeking the economic and social betterment of fellows
Men seek it in trade and commerce-wealth
Many seekit in the arenas of pleasure and thrill.
But sooner or later all these prove to be vanity and vexation of spirit.

II. But the K.G. os the ultimate of all our searching.
1. Follow the pearl merchant as he goes from country to country, ransacking the pearl supply of distant lands in his search after the best of all.

And with what diligent care lest he be imposed upon by a false gem or deceived by a hidden blemish.
2. But at last he finds his pearl of rarest beauty and supreme value! Perfect in shape,peerless

2. in lustre, priceless in value! None like it fabulous in all the world! The one pearl of great price#

3. And what is the teaching of this parable?
The Pearl of Great Price is the K.G.
The K.G. as found in Jesus Christ. He is the pearl of pearls, the chief among 10,000, the One altogether lovely.
The soul's superlative is found in Him, and thru Him alone do we realize a spiritual transformation of our nature- the pardon of our sins, peace of conscience, sonship with God, emortal life, eternal glory!

In comparison, what has the world to o offer? Wealth takes wings, health breaks down, youth gives way to old age, fame loses its lustre, victors of all sports are soon vanquished, the chalice of pleasure is soon drained leaving but dregs.

III. Note further that the act of the pearl merchant in selling all and buying the one pearl was done joyously.
To him theselling of his all was not sacrifi fice, but preparation for better investment. By so doing he gained 1000 times more.

Giving up everything to enter the K.G. is not done in the sense of losing but of gaining more.
To find in Jesus Christ the preciousness and pricelessness of the K.G. we must surrender our all to this one end.
"Lovest thou me more than these?"
"If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."
J.C. is the superlative of our life or he is nothing. "For me to live is Christ."

Ah, but we dont lose anything when we give up everything for the kingdom's sake. We ~~simply~~

gain the more. Men of wide experience and profound learning have found this to be true.

A person of distinction lay dying when there was brot to him a mark of honor from his monarch. Taking it in his hands he said,"This is a mighty fine thing here in this country, but I'm going to a country where it will be of no value to me".

It is related of the great Scotch surgeon, Sir James Simpson, that a young man once asked h him what he regarded as his greatest discovery. The scientist replied,"My greatest discovery is that I am a sinner and that Jesus is a great Savior."

One summer day a nurse was seated on the porch of the Dufferin Hospital in India, reading a book. There came up the steps a Hindo woman of high caste. As she aproached there fell from the nurse's book a picture of Holeman Hunt's Christ knocking at the closed door. The Hindo woman asked for an explanation of the picture and the nurse told her the stor;

Summer passed, then the fall and winter set in with snow on the nearby mountains. Miss Henderson, the nurse went to call on this Hindo woman. Found the woman's door wide open, and nurse-like, she said "You should not have your front door open. The mts are covered with snow and it is cold."

"I have seen the snow and I have felt the cold, but I thot that perhaps your Jesus would pass by and I wanted Him to find the door wide open."

In closing, may I refer to the other parable of the found treasure? Hidden in a field and found unexpectedly. Perhaps the K.G. is not so far away from us as we sometimes think. Within us. So simple that we often miss it. The search for the Holy Grail